

04-01-05 11:51:04

The Family Visitation Program of Tallahassee
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MEMO

TO: Allan Rosenzweig, Office of Management and Budget Director

FROM: Susan Marvin, The Family Visitation Program Director

DATE: 3/21/05

RE: Leon County Fund Balance for FVP

The Family Visitation Program (FVP) has existed since 1995. It currently is a collaborative effort of The FSU School of Social Work, The Department of Children and Family Services, and The Leon County Sheriff's Office. FVP provides court-ordered supervised visits between nonresidential parents and their children in juvenile dependency, criminal, injunction for protection against domestic violence, paternity, and dissolution of marriage cases. The services are provided for families in Leon County and the Second Judicial Circuit. FVP provides a safe, structured environment for the visits in order to maintain the bonds between children and parents and prevent the alienation of children which results when these bonds are broken. Research shows that such alienation often results in adults who commit crimes.

For years Leon County financially supported FVP. Court Administration administered the Program from 1998 to June 30, 2004. On July 1, 2004, the administration of FVP was taken over by FSU. There is an existing Fund Balance with Leon County for FVP of \$1,856.28. I am writing to ask that Leon County write a check to FSU for that amount so that FVP can continue to provide supervised visitation services to Leon County residents. The Program operates on a very small budget and is in need of these funds to continue to operate.

FVP greatly appreciates the time, energy, and financial assistance Leon County provided for many years! Please let me know if you or the Leon County Board of County Commissioners have any questions regarding this matter. Thank you.